



Travel to Canada – 9 January 2021

In order to continue to limit the spread of COVID-19, the Government of Canada is clarifying air carrier responsibilities and obligations as it relates to the boarding of travellers destined to Canada, pursuant to subsection 6.41(1)g of the *Aeronautics Act*, Annex *Interim Order Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19, No. 18*.

Note: Foreign National (FN) travellers must always satisfy documentary requirements for travel to Canada, e.g., temporary resident visas, eTAs, etc. Please continue to refer to the Interactive Advance Passenger Information (IAP) system messaging relating to the traveller.

All travellers five years of age or older who board an aircraft travelling to Canada after 11:59 PM EST on January 6th must have proof of a negative COVID-19 molecular test (including a polymerase chain reaction [PCR] or reverse transcription loop-mediated isothermal amplification [RT-LAMP]) before boarding a flight. Documentation of a negative laboratory test result must be presented to the air operator prior to boarding a flight to Canada. The test must be performed on a specimen collected within 72 hours of the aircraft's initial scheduled departure time of their direct flight to Canada.

This applies to all **foreign nationals, Canadian citizens, permanent residents of Canada and persons registered as Indian under the Indian Act.**

Travellers who are arriving from a limited number of countries listed in Schedule 2 of Transport Canada Interim Order may provide a test performed on a specimen collected within 96 hours of initial scheduled flight. Travellers arriving from a country listed in Schedule 1 of the TC Interim Order as having no capacity for testing will be exempt from the requirement.

IMPORTANT : Travellers arriving from Jamaica are temporarily exempted from the requirement to provide evidence of a negative COVID-19 test to board an aircraft to Canada will be issued.

The exemption will apply to persons boarding a flight from **Jamaica to Toronto/Lester B. Pearson International Airport in Canada between January 10th and January 18th.**

IMPORTANT: Travellers arriving from Jamaica to any other Canadian airport are **NOT** exempt from the requirement to present a negative test result.

In order for travellers to board the flight, **they will be required to either produce a negative molecular test result, or have in their possession a properly filled/signed Confirmation and Acknowledgement Form.** On the Confirmation and Acknowledgement Form, travellers are acknowledging that they will be subject to a COVID-19 molecular test upon arrival in Canada, either on a voluntary basis or, alternatively on a mandatory basis under the authority of the Quarantine Act and/or a Quarantine Officer, and/or may be directed to a federal designated quarantine facility.

Note: The above obligations do not apply to a limited number of classes of persons outlined in subsection 1.1(4) and 1.1(6) of the Mandatory Isolation Order as well as those who have been granted a legal exemption under the *Aeronautics Act*.

96 Hour Exception

Until January 14th, travellers arriving on a direct flight to Canada from the following countries/territories must present a negative COVID-19 molecular test result from a test that was performed on a specimen collected within 96 hours (instead of 72 hours) of the aircraft's initial scheduled departure time to Canada:

- Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, Bonaire, Saint Eustatius & Saba, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Curacao, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Jamaica, Martinique, Mexico, Panama, St. Lucia, Saint Vincent and Grenadines, Saint Maarten, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and Caicos Islands.

The testing requirement does not apply to children who are 4 years of age or younger.

Exemptions to the testing requirement:

The following travellers are exempt from the requirement to provide a negative COVID-19 molecular test:

- a) A person who was on board an aircraft to Canada on January 6th at 11:59 PM EST (*para. 15(1)(a) of the MI OIC*).
- b) A person who is not required to receive a negative result for a COVID-19 molecular test under the *Aeronautics Act* before boarding an aircraft for a flight to Canada (*para. 15(1)(b) of the MI OIC*).
 - Travellers arriving on a direct flight from Haiti (until January 21st), Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon (until January 14th) **and Jamaica (from January 10 to 18th).****
- c) A person who plans to arrive at a Canadian airport aboard an aircraft in order to transit to a country other than Canada and will remain in a sterile transit area, as defined in section 2 of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations*, until they leave Canada. (*subsection 1.1(6) of the MI OIC*).
- d) A *crew member* as defined in subsection 101.01(1) of the *Canadian Aviation Regulations* or a person who enters Canada only to become such a crew member. (*para. 1.1(4)(a) of the MI OIC*).

- e) A member of a crew as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations* who is re-entering Canada after having left to participate in mandatory training in relation to the operation of a conveyance, and who is required by their employer to return to work as a member of a crew on a conveyance within the 14-day period beginning on the day on which they return Canada. (*para. 1.1(4)(b) of the MI OIC*).
- f) A person or any person in a class of persons who, as determined by the Chief Public Health Officer, will provide an essential service, if the person complies with any conditions imposed on them by the Chief Public Health Officer to minimize the risk of introduction or spread of COVID-19. (*para. 1.1(4)(c) of the MI OIC*).
 - o Asymptomatic members of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) returning from mission essential travel, as long as they adhere to the alternative testing and oversight measures required by CAF.
 - o CAF flight crew performing mission essential travel.
- g) A person who is permitted to work in Canada as a provider of emergency services under paragraph 186(t) of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations* and who enters Canada for the purpose of providing those services. (*para. 1.1(4)(d) of the MI OIC*).
- h) An emergency service provider, including a firefighter, peace officer, or paramedic, who returns to Canada after providing emergency services in a foreign country and who is required to provide their services within the 14-day period beginning on the day on which they return Canada. (*para. 1.1(4)(e) of the MI OIC*).
- i) A person or any person in a class of persons whose presence in Canada, as determined by the Minister of Health, is in the national interest, if the person complies with any conditions imposed on them by that Minister to minimize the risk of introduction or spread of COVID-19. (*para. 1.1(4)(f) of the MI OIC*).
- j) An official of the Government of Canada or a foreign government, including a border services officer, immigration enforcement officer, law enforcement officer, or correctional officer, who is escorting individuals travelling to Canada or from Canada pursuant to a legal process such as the deportation, extradition or international transfer of an offender. (*para. 1.1(4)(g) of the MI OIC*).
- k) An official of the Government of Canada, the government of a province or a foreign government, including a border services officer, immigration enforcement officer, or law enforcement officer, who:
 - i. enters Canada for the purposes of border, immigration or law enforcement, or national security activities, that support active investigations, ensure the continuity of enforcement operations or activities, or enable the transfer of information or evidence pursuant to or in support of a legal process; and
 - ii. is required to provide their services within the 14-day period that begins on the day on which they enter Canada. (*para. 1.1(4)(h) of the MI OIC*).

**** Travellers arriving from these 3 countries will still be required to undergo an assessment by PHAC**

Transit Through Canada to Another Foreign Destination

The pre-arrival testing requirement does not apply to a person who plans to arrive at a Canadian airport aboard an aircraft in order to transit to a country other than Canada and to remain in a sterile transit area while at the Canadian airport. This includes “airside” inter-terminal transit at Toronto YYZ.

Travellers, referred to in subsection 1.1(6), who do not remain in the sterile transit area are not exempt from the requirement, and must present a negative COVID-19 molecular test, or be referred to PHAC officials.

Canadian citizens and persons who are registered as Indian under the Indian Act, who are denied boarding are to be referred by the carrier to the local Canadian mission for further assistance, as necessary. Permanent residents should be referred for consular services based on their country of citizenship.

Resources for Travellers with a Right of Entry

- Check Flying to and within Canada page: <https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid/travel-restrictions/flying>
- Nearest Canadian Consulate, Embassy or High Commission (<https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/country-pays/index.aspx?lang=eng> ; www.travel.gc.ca).
- After hours or for urgent requests:
 - o Contact the Global Affairs Canada 24/7 Operations Centre at +1 613-996-8885 or by email at sos@international.gc.ca

In addition to these new boarding requirements, existing travel restrictions continue to apply and air carriers continue to have the responsibility to apply them.

Air carriers should contact the Aviation Security team at Transport Canada (TC.aviationsecurity-sureteaerienne.TC@tc.gc.ca) for any enquiries related to testing and/or the application of the Interim Order.

The below scenarios were drafted to assist in determining whether a Foreign National's travel is prohibited (i.e., optional or discretionary travel) or whether boarding and/or travel is allowable under current Canadian requirements.

Note: This list is not exhaustive and is intended as a guide for carriers and their subcontracted document screeners.

Traveller Status / Scenario		Considerations	Should the agent contact the CBSA ACSC or Liaison Officer (LO)?
All Travellers:	Passenger has a negative COVID-19 molecular test	The test must have been performed on a specimen	No - unless there are other concerns.

COVID-19 molecular test (including PCR/RT LAMP test)		collected within 72 hours of boarding OR 96 hours from limited countries, see list in Schedule 2 of the TC IO. The traveller must meet all other requirements for entry to Canada	
	Foreign National does not have a negative COVID-19 molecular test	Traveller must be coming from a country designated in Schedule 1 of the TC IO as having no testing available OR meet an exemption to the testing requirement, listed above. If arriving from Jamaica to Toronto-Pearson, traveller must have a consent form, as noted above. Traveller must meet all other requirements for entry to Canada	No - unless there are other concerns Contact TC for further assistance.
	Passenger is a Canadian citizen, permanent resident of Canada, or person registered as Indian under the Indian Act and does not have a negative COVID-19 molecular test	Traveller must be coming from a country designated in Schedule 1 of the TC IO by as having no testing available OR meet an exemption to the testing requirement, listed above. If arriving from Jamaica to Toronto-Pearson, traveller must have a consent form, as noted above.	No – the client is not authorized to board. If the traveller is a Canadian citizen or registered Indian refer to local Canadian mission. If the traveller is a permanent resident, refer to consular assistance based on country of citizenship.
Foreign National: Work Permit	Passenger has valid Work Permit.	The person is previously established in Canada, residing and working there.	No – unless there are other concerns.
	Passenger has a letter from the Government of Canada stating their application for a work permit has been approved.	The person has a confirmed employment offer and has arranged to relocate to Canada for work.	No – unless there are other concerns.
		The person does not have an employment offer and states they are going to Canada to look for work.	No – the client is not authorized to travel unless they are eligible for another exemption, in which case, contact the LO
	Passenger is a family member of a work permit holder and has a written authorization issued by the Government of Canada stating they are exempt from the Covid-19 travel measures.	The person may be travelling with the work permit holder or travelling to reunite with the work permit holder.	No – unless there are other concerns
Passenger is entering from the US, has a Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA) or is LMIA exempt and is eligible to apply for a work permit at the port of entry	The person has a confirmed offer of employment and has arranged to relocate to Canada for work.	No – unless there are other concerns.	

Foreign National: Study Permit	Passenger has a valid Study Permit OR has a letter from the Government of Canada stating that their application for Study Permit was approved.	The person is destined to a listed institution , i.e., a designated learning institution, deemed by a Canadian Province or Territory to have appropriate public health measures in place to accommodate students, and appearing on the website of listed institutions published by the Government of Canada / Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC).	No – unless there are other concerns.
		The person is destined to an educational institution which is NOT a listed institution , i.e., it is not a designated learning institution, deemed by a Canadian Province or Territory to have appropriate public health measures in place to accommodate students, and does not appear on, or no longer appears on (has been removed from) the website of listed institutions published by the Government of Canada / Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC).	No – Client is not authorized to travel unless they meet another exemption, in which case contact the LO.
	Passenger is the immediate family member of a person on a Study permit	The passenger must be travelling to establish themselves with a person who is eligible to enter Canada with a Study permit	Yes – the CBSA duty Liaison Officer will be able to assist in determining whether the passenger’s travel to Canada is discretionary.
Foreign National: Immediate Family Member	Passenger has a Canadian citizen or permanent resident immediate family member *.	The person is an immediate family member of a Canadian citizen or permanent resident, and is seeking to be with/stay with their Canadian citizen or permanent resident immediate family member for a visit of 15 days or more.	No – unless there are other concerns.
	<i>*immediate family member = spouse, common-law partner, dependent child (including step-child), parent (including step-parent and in-law), guardian.</i>	The person is an immediate family member of a Canadian citizen or permanent resident, but the planned travel is for 14 days or less OR the person is not destined to be with/stay with their immediate family member in Canada.	Yes – the CBSA Duty Liaison Officer will be able to assist in determining whether the passenger’s travel to Canada is discretionary.
Foreign National: Extended Family Member	Passenger has a Canadian citizen or permanent resident extended family member*. <i>*extended family member = non-dependent child (including step-child),</i>	The person is an extended family member of a Canadian citizen or permanent resident AND has in their possession the requisite statutory declaration attesting to the relationship with the Canadian citizen or permanent resident, signed by the Canadian citizen or	No – unless there are other concerns.

	<p><i>grandchild (including step-grandchild), sibling (including step- and half-sibling), individual who is at least 18 years old and in a romantic relationship of greater than 1 year duration with an individual who is also at least 18 years old</i></p>	<p>permanent resident, AND has in their possession a letter or email of authorization from the Government of Canada / Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC).</p>	
<p>The person is an extended family member of a Canadian citizen or permanent resident but does NOT have in their possession EITHER the requisite statutory declaration attesting to the relationship with the Canadian citizen or permanent resident, signed by the Canadian citizen or permanent resident, OR a letter or email of authorization from the Government of Canada/ Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC).</p>		<p>No – unless client is eligible for other exemption.</p> <p>*Please note if traveler does not have IRCC authorization letter and statutory declaration letter, do not board.</p> <p>The client should be referred to IRCC Information for request related to extended family.</p>	
<p>The person is an extended family member of a Canadian citizen or permanent resident, but the planned travel is for 14 days or less OR the person is not destined to be with/stay with their extended family member in Canada.</p>		<p>No – Client is not authorized to travel unless they meet another exemption, in which case contact the LO.</p>	
<p>Foreign National: Compassionate Grounds</p>	<p>Passenger seeks to go to Canada to attend to the death of, or provide support to, a critically ill (as deemed by a licensed health care professional) Canadian citizen, permanent resident, temporary resident, protected person, or a person registered under the <i>Indian Act</i>.</p>	<p>The person has in their possession authorization from the Canadian Minister of Health.</p>	<p>No – unless there are other concerns.</p>
		<p>The person does NOT have in their possession authorization from the Canadian Minister of Health.</p>	<p>No – Unless client is eligible for other exemption.</p> <p>*Please note if passenger does not have authorization from Canadian Minister of Health, do not board.</p> <p>The client should be referred to PHAC Application for travel on compassionate grounds.</p>
	<p>Passenger seeks to go to Canada to provide care for a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, temporary resident, protected person, or a</p>	<p>The person has in their possession authorization from the Canadian Minister of Health.</p>	<p>No – unless there are other concerns.</p>

	person registered under the <i>Indian Act</i> , for whom a licensed health care professional has deemed there is a medical reason for which they require support.	The person does NOT have in their possession authorization from the Canadian Minister of Health.	No- Unless client is eligible for other exemption *Please note if passenger does not have authorization from Canadian Minister of Health, do not board. The client should be referred to PHAC Application for travel on compassionate grounds.
	Passenger seeks to go to Canada to attend a funeral or end of life ceremony.	The person has in their possession authorization from the Canadian Minister of Health.	No – unless there are other concerns.
		The person does NOT have in their possession authorization from the Canadian Minister of Health.	No – Unless client is eligible for other exemption. *Please note if passenger does not have authorization from Canadian Minister of Health, do not board. The client should be referred to PHAC Application for travel on compassionate grounds.
Foreign National: Immigrant Visas and Confirmation of Permanent Residence Letters (COPR)	Passenger has a valid Immigrant Visa (IM-1) in their passport where the date of issue is before 18 March 2020.	The person states that they are immigrating or moving to Canada.	No – unless there are other concerns.
	Passenger has a Confirmation of Permanent Residence (COPR) document issued before 18 March 2020.	The person states that they are immigrating or moving to Canada.	No – unless there are other concerns.
	Passenger has an Immigrant Visa (IM-1) or COPR issued after 18 March 2020.	The person states that they are immigrating or moving to Canada.	Yes – if person is eligible for another exemption
Foreign National: Sporting Event	Passenger seeks to go to Canada to participate in an international single sporting event	The person states they have and presents an authorization letter from the Deputy Minister of Heritage Canada (PCH)	No – unless there are other concerns.
Foreign National:	The traveller is seeking to transit through Canada	The traveller:	No – unless there are other concerns.

<p>Transit Through Canada by Air</p>	<p>(international to international)</p> <p>International-to-international (ITI) transit through Canada is permitted at this time, under the circumstances outlined to the right.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Arrives and departs from the same Canadian airport within 24 hours;* -Remains in a sterile area of the airport (airside); -Does not require processing by the CBSA to formally enter Canada in order to collect their baggage (baggage must be checked all the way to final destination) and/or check-in for their outbound flight; -Is not required to transfer between airport terminals, unless they do so without formally seeking entry to Canada;** -Does not require a domestic connection <p>*ITI connections must occur on the same operating day at all Canadian airports with the exception of Toronto (YYZ). Overnight connections are not possible at Montreal (YUL), Calgary (YYC) or Vancouver (YVR.</p> <p>**Only possible at Toronto (YYZ)</p> <p>Air carriers must not ticket or carry foreign national transit passengers if their intended routing does not satisfy all of the above parameters.</p>	
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Should you require clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the CBSA ACSC or Liaison Officer responsible for your airport.